

with the community and future generations. He founded "Science Superstars" to engage children and encourage a passion for learning, and "Bios, a School on Wheels" to help students explore various scientific research centers and programs across Texas. Under his leadership, these educational programs have now spread across the nation.

Michael was also a faithful Christian, and attended the First United Methodist Church in Orange. My prayers and condolences go out to Michael's loving wife, Sandra, his daughter Julia, and his son Robert, and his two grandchildren. Michael will be sorely missed in our community, but his passion and legacy will certainly live on.

RECOGNIZING HERO OF THE YEAR, OFFICER JEFF SCHLEE

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 2016

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Police Officer Jeff Schlee, who recently was awarded "Hero of the Year" by the Palatine Chamber of Commerce for his work preparing schools, teachers, parents, and the community for a school shooting.

Officer Schlee works with schools in Palatine, IL and has consulted with numerous suburbs in the Chicagoland area and across the country to prepare them for the possibility of a school shooting. Officer Schlee has been a school safety officer for ten years and has always had a passion for protecting students; however he credits the birth of his children for increasing his dedication to defending school children.

With dedication and persistence, he has studied past school shootings and works alongside his colleagues at the Palatine Police Department to develop response plans which could save student's lives. One of the principles of his plan is having the whole community respond as a unit to make sure everyone is on the same page. Office Schlee believes it is essential to study the tragedies of the past to keep our children safe today and in the future.

Mr. Speaker and my distinguished colleagues in the House, please join me in recognizing Officer Jeff Schlee for the work he has done to help protect students in Palatine and across this great nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 2016

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House chamber for votes on Monday, February 1, 2016. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on roll call vote 46.

HONORING MS. GLORIA FLAHERTY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Gloria Flaherty, who is retiring from the Lake Family Resource Center after 19 years of service.

Ms. Flaherty's resume of community service is impressive. In addition to being a Founding Director and Executive Director at Lake Family Resource Center, Gloria has held numerous positions and titles within the Lake County community over the past two decades. Among other endeavors, Ms. Flaherty served as President of Kelseyville Sunrise Rotary, Board President of Kelseyville Unified School District, and Commissioner of First 5 Lake County. She has recently served as Chairman of the Lake County Continuum of Care, as a member of the Boards of North Coast Opportunities and Friends of Mendocino College, and as a Board member on the California Partnership to End Domestic Violence. Most recently, Ms. Flaherty has been heavily involved in Lake County fire recovery efforts, working tirelessly to set up a "warming center" to provide shelter and respite for those in need.

In 2015, Ms. Flaherty received the Lake County Childcare Planning Council's Lifetime Achievement Award. She was also named the 2015 Woman of the Year from the Third Congressional District. Ms. Flaherty has consistently demonstrated kindness, compassion and integrity, and has worked for years as a tireless advocate for children and families. The citizens of Lake County have benefitted enormously from her efforts.

Mr. Speaker, Gloria Flaherty has served her community with admirable commitment and resolve. It is fitting and proper that I honor her here today. I wish Gloria Flaherty the best in her retirement.

RECOGNIZING COBWRA ON THEIR 35TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 2016

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of myself and Mr. DEUTCH to congratulate the Coalition of Boynton West Residential Associations, or COBWRA, for 35 years of diligent work. COBWRA has played an important role in the growth of West Boynton Beach, an area in both our districts.

Since 1982, the officers and members of COBWRA have served as a voice for the residential communities of West Boynton Beach, ensuring that resident's concerns are heard and addressed. COBWRA has played a crucial role in bringing parks, schools, libraries, businesses, and hospitals to the area, while also serving as an advocate and educational source for residents.

We are pleased to recognize COBWRA today for their service and commitment to their community, and look forward to working with them in the future to continue the growth and achievement of West Boynton.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF JOANN STINGLEY

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 2016

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of JoAnn Stingley. JoAnn coordinates the social service unit, also known as the victim's assistance unit for the Elgin Police Department.

JoAnn has been a social worker for the Elgin Police Department for more than 24 years. She was hired by former police chief Charles Gruber in 1991 and at the time Elgin was one of the first police departments to hire social workers in Illinois. Since that time she said she has never considered doing anything else but helping others.

JoAnn's salary is on the Elgin police department payroll; however, there is no budget allocation for client related expenses. This means that JoAnn must hold numerous fundraisers a year to support the programs she runs free of charge. These programs include crisis intervention, counseling, legal referrals and referrals for community resources including shelter, mental illness, substance abuse, parenting, and youth anger management courses. Lt. Rick Ciganek, an officer in the Elgin Police Department, was full of praise for JoAnn, stating, "She's truly the unsung hero of the police department. Anybody who comes here and says, 'I need some help,' they get help. JoAnn is incredible. She'll provide services for anybody." JoAnn is truly an inspiring woman and one of the many reasons Elgin is such a great place to work and live.

Mr. Speaker and my distinguished colleagues in the House, please join me in recognizing the service and dedication of JoAnn Stingley.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF LEHIGH CARBON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 2016

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize the 50th Anniversary of Lehigh Carbon Community College (LCCC). LCCC was founded in 1966 and for 50 years it has delivered quality, affordable two-year degree course programs, certificate and specialized diploma programs to students from Lehigh, Carbon, Schuylkill and other counties.

The College has an enrollment of over 7,100 students and offers more than 90 programs of study.

The Lehigh Valley community has long recognized the outstanding asset we have in Lehigh Carbon Community College. The College gives students a great start for gaining the skills they'll need to find and succeed in decent, good-paying careers and provides the employers of the region with skilled and well-trained workers.

Mr. Speaker, I warmly extend my congratulations to the students, faculty, employees, administrators and alumni of Lehigh Carbon Community College on the happy occasion of